



Performance Company Parent Information

The Hoffman Estates Park District is excited that your dancer is interested in trying out for the Performance Dance Company. Included in this handbook is important information regarding the 2024-2025 dance season. Please read all the information in its entirety to fully understand the commitment and requirements expected of performance company dancers and families.

The Performance Company is made up of one level. The goal of the program is to offer a group of dancers the opportunity to have more performances than recreational classes and perfect technique to audition for the Stars Dance Company in the future. The performance company has a strong focus on perfecting technique, increasing performance skills, advancing skills in multiple dance genres, and sharing the love of dance with others. The performance company showcases the following genres of dance: ballet, jazz, lyrical, modern, musical theater, tap, contemporary, and hip hop.

Stars Dance Company is for dancers 8-18 years old. Dancers must be 8 by September 1, 2024.

Try-out information:

Try-Outs will take place at Triphahn Center Dance Studio on Saturday, June 29th.

Ages 8-10 – 12:00-1:30p, ages 11-12 – 3:00-4:30p, ages 13-18 – 4:30-6:00p.

Dancers in the younger age categories could be asked to also dance in a higher age level. Dancers will be asked to stay at the audition if we want to see them dance with older dancers.

Dancers: Dancers should wear black leotards and pink tights, bring ballet & jazz shoes, optional black jazz pants and have hair pulled up in a bun.

Parents: Parents are not allowed to watch try-outs.

At tryouts, dancers will warm up with ballet barre exercises, perform ballet skills in the center and across the floor. Dancers will learn a short choreographed routine to perform for the judges. The instructors will observe the dancers.

Try-out assessments: Dancers are evaluated on and placed in levels by skills, performance quality and attitude.

Dancers will be notified via their parent's email the week of July 8th if they have been invited to be a member of the Performance Company for the 2024-2025 season.

2024-2025 Performance Company Information:

Classes:

All dancers will be required to take a minimum of two classes.

- 1) Technique class: 45-minute class - dancers will continue to work on proper technique in multiple genres of dance.
- 2) Choreography class: 45-minute class after the dancers' technique class. Dancers will learn choreography for their group dances.

Our Performance company schedule is as follows:

Day of the Week	Time	Class
Tuesday	5:45-6:30pm	Performing Company Technique
Tuesday	6:30-7:15pm	Performing Company Choreography

Expectations:

Attendance: All dancers are expected to attend each weekly class. Stars Dance Company relies on the strength of the entire team. Dancers should also always bring a writing utensil notebook and closed lid water bottle to class each week.

- If you are going to be absent, the instructors must be notified at least 1 weeks prior unless for illness. If multiple classes are missed, it may affect participation in dance performances/competitions.
- We understand the Performance Company dancers are involved in other activities but please keep in mind that missing a dance class impacts not only the dancer that is absent but their fellow dancers as well! Exceptions can be made for school events if notified at least a week in advance.
- Dancers are expected to be in all choreography classes and dress rehearsals the week of a performance. Failure to attend choreography classes and dress rehearsal the week of a competition could result in not dancing at that weekend's performance.
- Dancers should be arriving at least 5 minutes before class time to get dressed and stretched in the hallway before class/rehearsal.
- If classes are missed, it is the responsibility of the dancer to learn any new choreography.
- If dancer is more than 10 minutes late dancer must stretch on their own in class before being invited to join in on the class.
- Arriving more than 15 minutes late to class or leaving 15 minutes early from class counts as half an absence.

Accountability:

- All dancers are expected to have respect for peers and teachers during classes, rehearsals and performances. Consequences can arise if being disrespectful.
- All performance company dancers are expected to behave in a professional manner in all classes, rehearsals and performances.
- Dancers are expected to keep talking to a minimum and stay focused on what is being taught in class. If a dancer is asked to stop talking more than 2 times in class, the dancer will be asked to leave class and will be invited back in by the teacher.
- Performance Company dancers should act as role models for younger dancers.
- Dancers are expected to show good sportsmanship in all classes, rehearsal and performances. Dancers should keep negativity out of the classroom and be encouraged by teammates.
- Dancers are expected to learn choreography quickly. If a class is missed it is the responsibility of the dancer to learn the new choreography before the next class.

- Dancers are expected to stretch and practice dances weekly.
- Performance Company dancers must be able to accept and apply teacher corrections. Dancers should not be giving their peers corrections.

Dress Code:

- Ballet: solid black or purple leotard (any style), pink tights, pink canvas ballet shoes, black sports bra (if applicable), hair in a tight bun. Optional simple ballet skirt or form fitted plain black shorts, ballet belt. Or for other styles solid black or purple leotard (any style), form-fitting plain black capris/pants/shorts, black sports bra (if applicable), clean ponytail, braids, or bun. Bring tan jazz shoes, lyrical shoes, modern sandals and ballet shoes each week. The teacher will notify dancers what needs to be worn each week depending on the style.
- Stars Days: dancers and parents will be notified of what to wear before each Stars Day.
- Sweatshirts and warm up must be removed after 5 minutes of class/rehearsal.
- Strikes will be given per occurrence, if dress code is not followed. After 3 strikes parents will be notified.
- Dancers are required to maintain personal hygiene. Dancers at age of puberty and beyond are required to wear deodorant to class, rehearsals, and performances. Be sure to wash dance attire regularly.
- No jewelry – stud earrings okay.
 - Not responsible for any lost items, these should be left at home.

Injuries:

- If a dancer is injured, a doctor's note must be submitted prior to resuming participation. Dancers are required to attend class and observe and take notes to remain part of the team.

Technology:

- Cell phones and smart watches are not allowed to be used during class. Cell phones should be off or on silent and placed aside in bag during class. Smartwatches should be silenced during class.
- If taken out/used during class a verbal warning will be given, if continued then cell phone/smartwatch will need to be placed on teacher's table and parents will be notified.

Team Support:

- All company dancers are part of one big team. Although dancers will be split up between different levels, dancers should be attending competitions to support the other levels.
- We are one large company/family, we need to support one another and no negative comments about each other, teachers, or the company.
- We all aren't best friends, but we are all teammates doing what we love.
- Performance Company dancers are highly encouraged to attend competitions for the Stars Dance Company dancers to support them.

Disclaimer:

- Performance Company and its teachers is an all-inclusive dance community. Discrimination in any form is not tolerated.
- Dancers can be asked at any time by teachers to resign their spot on the team if company rules are not being followed.

Tentative Performance Schedule:

December	Winter Fest – Performance
Mid/End of May	Dance Recital
July	Hoffman 4 th of July Parade

If we are invited to other performance opportunities throughout the year the Performance Company may have some extra performances.

STARS Days:

We will be having 5, 2 hour sessions throughout the season for the dancers to interact with one another and have group dance classes together.

September 4th 5-7pm	Team building
Friday, November 15 th 5-7pm	Friendsgiving
Friday, December 13 th 5-7:30pm	Holiday Party
TBD	Large Group Rehearsal for Opening/Closing Dances
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Parent Involvement:

Throughout the year, we will be looking for our Company parents to support the dancers with additional duties at performances and recital.

Pre-Season Parent & Dancer Meeting:

We will have a meeting with all parents for the 2024-2025 Performance Company season. Our meeting will be Tuesday, August 27th from 5:45-6:15pm.

Company Tuition:

What's included?

Fall Technique (45 minute class)	13 weeks	\$186
Fall Session Choreography (45 minute class)	13 weeks	\$186
Winter/Spring technique (45 minute class)	18 weeks	\$257
Winter/Spring Choreography (45 minute class)	18 weeks	\$257
STARS Days (5 – 2 hour sessions)		\$32
Opening/closing recital costumes	2 costumes	\$130
2 Group dance costumes	2 costumes	\$150
1 Recital media fee	Recital Video	\$26
End of year banquet for dancer		\$28
		\$1252

Payment options:

1. Pay in Full
2. Payment Plan: \$100 deposit when officially registering for performance company, then 9 monthly payments of \$128 on 15th of month (August 2024 – April 2025).

What is not included in tuition? What are parents responsible for?

- Attire for classes
- Pink canvas ballet shoes
- Nude jazz shoes
- Any other specialty shoes
- Tights for performance (will finalize all colors once costumes are ordered)
- Nude under suit
- Personal hygiene products
- Dance bag
- Makeup for performances (an email list will be provided with links)

Refunds:

Costumes are non-refundable. If a dancer decides they do not want to continue with the performance company, you can submit a refund request. Refunds will only be issued for all classes that were not attended from the time the refund request is submitted.

Company Handbook Acknowledgement:

Dancers and parents will need to sign a performance company handbook acknowledgement when accepting a spot for the season. Forms will be provided at the dancer/parent meeting in August.